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Fees Paid Foreign Lobbyists In U.S. To Be Investigated

The U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee is reported to be planning an investigation of the vast powers exerted by lobbyists for foreign governments, in the United States.

Senate investigators will question foreign agents who have received fees ranging from \$20,000 to \$250,000 to influence foreign policy and obtain large sums of economic and military aid for their clients. A few examples:

A New York law firm reportedly received \$100,000 for arranging a special Presidential economic mission to its foreign client country. As a result the country received more than \$100 million in U.S. aid.

A Washington lawyer represented a foreign government which received a large loan from the the Development Loan Fund. The lawyer's fee, \$20,000 was paid by another U.S. agency.

An East Coast lawyer was paid \$350,000 for representing a Central American government for two years. The amount included a \$10,000 personal gift from the country's president for arranging a highly

successful visit to the United States. The lawyer listed his "entertainment expenses" at \$22,000.

The tax returns of the recipients of these fees are being checked by the government. Some have reportedly been found to be incomplete.

Atty. Gen. Kennedy has summoned a special grand jury to probe the registration reports of the foreign government representatives to ascertain whether they are complying with the law.

It is also rumored that Chairman Fulbright of the Foreign Relations Committee may use this inquiry to launch an investigation of Central Intelligence Agency, since many individuals and groups receive money from that agency.

The Senator is said to have told other Senators that the coming hearings may be the most sensational since the Reconstruction Finance Corporation investigation during the Truman administration. It resulted in the resignation of a number of government officials.